



Open stands of young longleaf pine and grass rough commonly carry very intense fires. A prescribed burn in March 2001 had an intensity of 545 kJ/sec/m, which was three times the recommended maximum intensity of 173 kJ/sec/m.



Prescribed burning has helped to restore the Kisatchie National Forest and create open stands of longleaf pine.



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the longleaf pine type.



--to open stands of longleaf pine



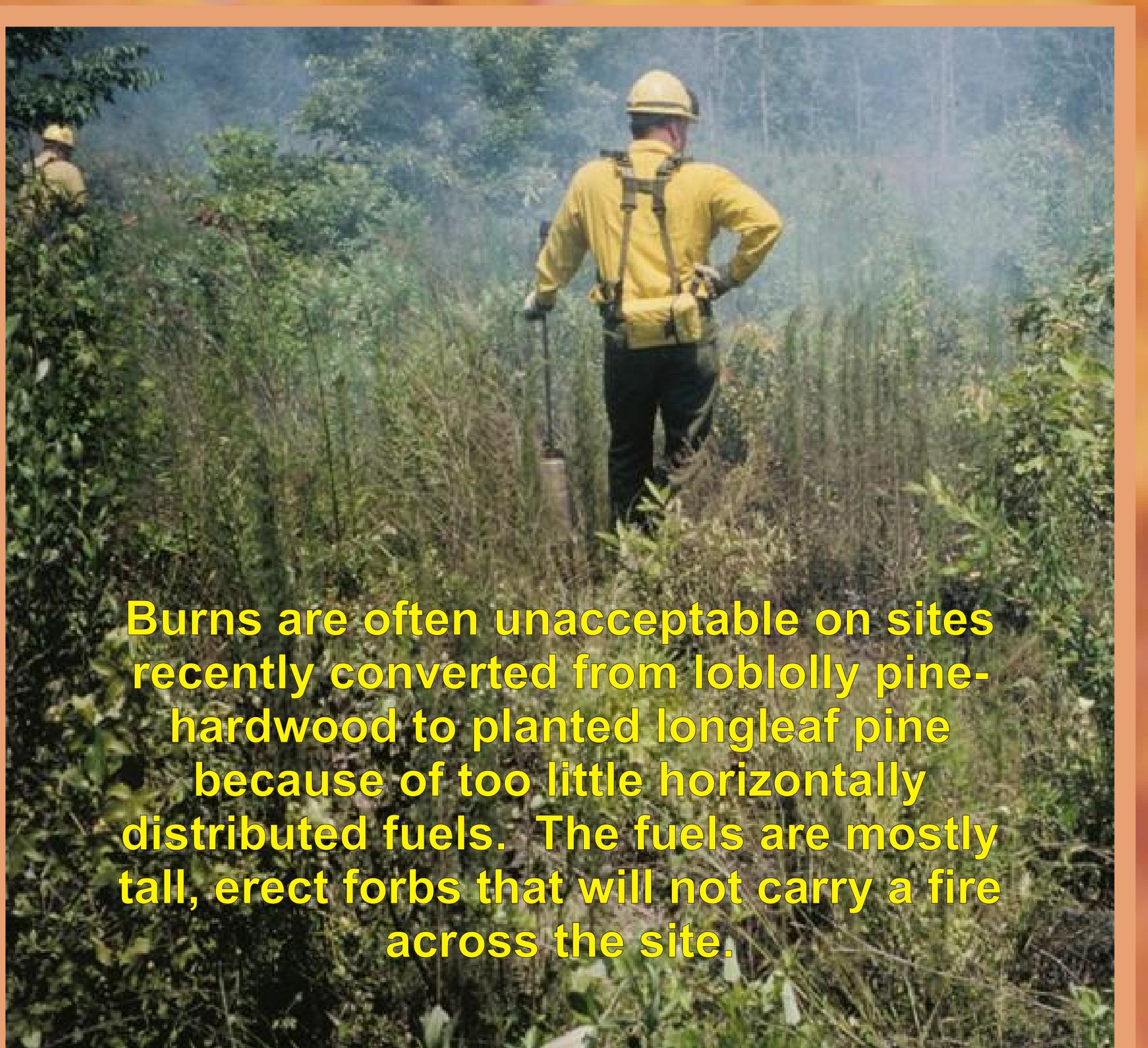
Harold's Burning Study was initiated in open range in 1962. The natural longleaf pine reproduction and grasses were biennially burned. The longleaf pine flourished, and a stand of pure longleaf pine with a rich herbaceous plant community exists today.



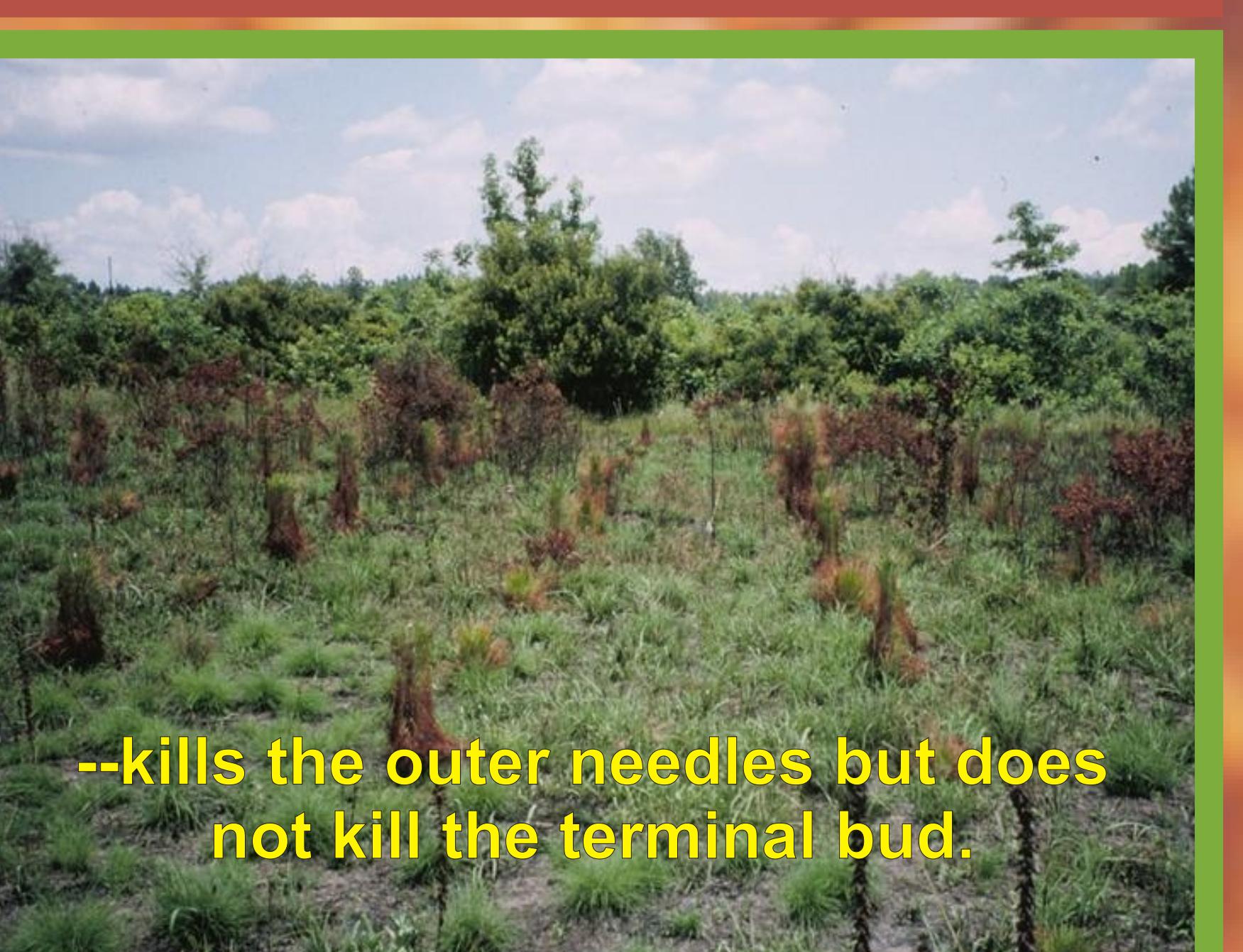
Such intense fires commonly scorch over half of the longleaf pine needles. This fire killed almost all of the foliage. However, the thick tufts of needles protected the buds and newly emerging shoots. Although the trees lost growth, they have survived this and several other intense burns.



Fire in seedling longleaf pine--



Burns are often unacceptable on sites recently converted from loblolly pine-hardwood to planted longleaf pine because of too little horizontally distributed fuels. The fuels are mostly tall, erect forbs that will not carry a fire across the site.



--kills the outer needles but does not kill the terminal bud.



Without fire at Harold's Burning Study, longleaf pine does not flourish. Forty-two years of fire exclusion has eliminated all but the most shade tolerant herbaceous plants. A multiple canopy stand of mixed pines, hardwood trees, and shrubs occupies the site.

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